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September 30, 2002
By Michelle Chan
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PATENT
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

J. WALLACE PARCE et al.

Application No.: 09/721,508

Filed: November 22, 2000

For: HIGH THROUGHPUT SCREENING
ASSAY SYSTEMS IN MICROSCALE
FLUIDIC DEVICES

Examiner: Tran

Art Unit: 1641

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 2, 2002, Applicants respectfully
request reconsideration based upon the following amendments and remarks:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph which begins on page 38, line 4 with the following:

In operation, test compounds in discrete subject material regions, are serially
introduced into the device, separated as described above, and flowed along the transverse sample
injection channel **304** until the separate subject material regions are adjacent the intersection of
the sample channel **304** with the parallel reaction channels **310-324**. As shown in FIGS. 4A-4F,
the test compounds are optionally provided immobilized on individual beads. In those cases
where the test compounds are immobilized on beads, the parallel channels are optionally
fabricated to include bead resting wells **326-338** at the intersection of the reaction channels with
the sample injection channel **304**. Arrows **340** in Figure 4A indicate the net fluid flow during this
type of sample/bead injection. As individual beads settle into a resting well, fluid flow through

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